Please replace the paragraph at Page 7, lines 5-15 with the following:

Returning to Figures 2 and 3, the sled 12 has in a forward position to the gear shift aperture 30 and the transfer case shifter aperture 34 an instrument panel (I/P) mounting bracket 20. The sled 12 has in a rearward position to the parking brake cable access aperture 28 a console mounting bracket 22. It should be understood that the I/P mounting bracket 20 and the console mounting bracket 44 are optional and may be attached to the sled 12 by a variety of methods. The sled 12 is fixedly mounted in position onto the floor pan 23 of a vehicle via fasteners that are accepted by front orifices 38, middle orifices 42 and rear orifices 40 of the sled 12. Additionally, when the sled system 10 is mounted in position, I/P mounting bracket 20 is used to mount to the instrument panel, and the console mounting bracket 22 is used to mount the console to the sled 12.

Please replace the paragraph at Page 7, line 16 - Page 8, line 4 with the following:

It should be understood that the sled 12 can have various shapes in order to mate with a particular vehicle floor pan. Additionally, the sled 12 can vary in the placement, the position and design of apertures. Also, the sled 12 can vary in the existence of apertures, and in the existence and placement of fasteners. It should also be understood that the sled 12 may also be configured with or without the assemblies as shown in the illustrated embodiments including the removal of the transfer case shifter assembly 16, the parking brake assembly 18 or the gear shift assembly 14, or any combination thereof. Finally, it should be understood that the I/P mounting bracket 20 and the console bracket 22 may have a variety of configurations, and may or may not be included individually or together on the sled 12.

Please replace the paragraph at Page 8, lines 5-20 with the following:

Turning to Figure 4, the block diagram illustrates alternate embodiments of the sled system 10 wherein the sled 12 has a gear shift portion 50, a transfer case portion 52 and a parking brake portion 54, wherein a gear shift assembly 14, of either a manual or automatic type, is disposed and mounted in the gear shift portion 50, a transfer case shifter assembly 16 is disposed and mounted in the transfer case portion 52 and a parking brake hand lever assembly 18 is disposed and mounted in the parking brake portion 54. A console 58 is mounted to the sled 12 via the console mounting bracket 22. It will be understood that any combination of the gear shift portion 50, the transfer case portion 52 and the parking brake portion 54 may be used. It will also be understood that the gear shift portion 50, the transfer case portion 52 and the parking brake portion 50 will have an appropriate configuration, including the position and shape of apertures and the inclusion and position of fasteners in order to accommodate the disposition and placement of an assembly in an appropriate position in relation to a vehicle. In operation, following mounting of sled system 10 either as a module or assembled within the vehicle movement of an appropriate lever operates an appropriate system in the vehicle resulting in an appropriate response.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows (the changes to the claims are shown in the attachment):

1. (AMENDED) A sled system for mounting a shift assembly to a vehicle comprising: